

IN THE CLAIMS

Please **CANCEL** claims 1-9.

Please **ADD** new claims 10-27 as follows:

10. (New) A method of monitoring the chargeable activities of a user in a mobile telecommunications network, the method comprising:

monitoring at least one condition on which charging may be based; and
normalizing the at least one monitored condition so that the condition(s) can be compared against a standard value and/or used for calculating a charge.

11. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein said conditions include time based and data transfer volume based conditions.

12. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein said steps of monitoring at least one condition and of normalizing the at least one monitored condition are carried out at the serving node for the user.

13. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein said mobile telecommunications network is a Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) network and said serving node is a Mobile Switching Center (MSC).

14. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein said mobile telecommunications network is a Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) network or a Serving General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) Support Node (SGSN).

15. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein the normalizing values are transferred from a charge control function of said network, or of another network to which the user is a subscriber, either upon initiation of a chargeable activity or prior to such initiation.

16. (New) The method according to claim 15, wherein a standard value which defines a cost limit up to which the user is authorized, and against which a monitored condition or combination of monitored conditions is compared, is transferred from said charge control function to said serving node.

17. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein said user is a subscriber of a home GSM network and is roaming in a foreign GSM network, and the normalizing values are transferred from the home network to the serving node of the foreign network using the Customized Applications for Mobile Network Enhanced Logic (CAMEL) protocol.

18. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein at least one normalized monitored condition, or a combination of normalized monitored conditions, is compared against a predetermined value which defines a cost limit up to which the user is authorized, and, if the condition or combination of conditions reaches the predetermined value, the serving node sends an authorization request to a charge controlling node.

19. (New) A node of a mobile telecommunications network which serves one or more mobile users, the node comprising:

means for monitoring at least one condition on which charging may be based;
and

means for normalizing the at least one monitored condition so that the condition(s) can be compared against a standard value and/or used for calculating a charge.

20. (New) The node of claim 19, wherein said conditions include time based and data transfer volume based conditions.

21. (New) The node of claim 19, wherein the serving node monitors the at least one condition and normalizes the at least one monitored condition.

22. (New) The node of claim 21, wherein said mobile telecommunications network is a Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) network and said serving node is a Mobile Switching Center (MSC).

23. (New) The node of claim 21, wherein said mobile telecommunications network is a Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) network or a Serving General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) Support Node (SGSN).

24. (New) The node of claim 19, wherein the normalizing values are transferred from a charge control function of said network, or of another network to which the user is a subscriber, either upon initiation of a chargeable activity or prior to such initiation.

25. (New) The node of claim 24, wherein a standard value which defines a cost limit up to which the user is authorized, and against which a monitored condition or combination of monitored conditions is compared, is transferred from said charge control function to said serving node.

26. (New) The node of claim 19, wherein said user is a subscriber of a home GSM network and is roaming in a foreign GSM network, and the normalizing values are transferred from the home network to the serving node of the foreign network using the Customized Applications for Mobile Network Enhanced Logic (CAMEL) protocol.

27. (New) The node of claim 19, wherein at least one normalized monitored condition, or a combination of normalized monitored conditions, is compared against a standard value which defines a cost limit up to which the user is authorized, and, if the condition or combination of conditions reaches the standard value, the serving node sends an authorization request to a charge controlling node.